



THE HAWAIIAN BAND.

In the absence of other amusement during the quarantine period people appreciated the band concerts more than ever. They were a God send to everybody. At least for a few hours the mind was directed from thoughts of the plague and its influence on business.

The band is taken so much as a matter of course that full credit is not always given Capt. Berger and his band boys for a great deal of hard work. In the first place, nearly every man in the band is a creation of the master-hand—Capt. Berger. He has taken, in almost every instance, raw Hawaiians, with a natural attitude for music and made them masters of melody.

The Misses Julia Keliia and Nani Alapai are a pleasing feature of the band concerts. These young ladies both have fine voices and sing Hawaiian melodies with the band accompaniment twice a week. It is remarkable that they are able to retain such freshness of voice singing in the open air as much as they do.

The Washington's birthday concert given by the Hawaiian band in the Palace grounds, was one of the greatest success in its history. The audience was very large and enthusiastic. Miss Julia Keliia made a tremendous hit being three times encored. She sang the great contralto song from *Il Trovatore* with a pathos and precision that astonished her many auditors who were aware of the fact that she had only been a pupil of Capt. Berger's for six months.

Miss Keliia has a remarkable contralto voice. In fact, it is more than a contralto and should be classed as a mezzo of remarkable range. The metallic, sympathetic timbre of the voice is such as to bring tears to one's eyes. In her Prof. Herr Berger has evolved the highest type of his great ability to teach time. The perfect precision with which the young lady took her notes under the professor's baton was amply illustrative of his genius in this direction and of the pliability of his pupil. The applause was enthusiastic and long continued. It was an ovation which should mark the turning point for success in this young lady's career.

One of the most pleasing features of the concert was the violin solo by Prof. Paul Egery and later his sweet and touching violin obligato to Mrs. Alapai second encore. He was frequently applauded. Nothing could have been a better test of the quality of this lady's voice than its perfect harmony with the violin. Prof. Egery came here with the Boston Lyric Company and finding Honolulu so congenial decided to remain. He has certainly proven a great acquisition to local musical circles.

Before concluding it might be well to suggest, to those who have the interests of the Hawaiians at heart, that the genius of this young Hawaiian lady, Miss Keliia, should not be lost sight of. For instance, could not a concert be given, let us suggest, say, under the patronage of Mrs. Montague Turner, to raise funds for continuing the young lady's musical education. After this, a subscription list could be started to add to the fund a sufficient sum to send her abroad. In the meantime Prof. Berger should be careful not to impair the freshness of her voice by too much open air singing.

RED MEN'S BALL.

Progress hall was a scene of mirth and festivity on

Thursday night, when Hawaiian Tribe No. 1, I. O. R. M., gave its annual ball. There were fully 250 people there, a great majority of the number being ladies. The spirit of the day was shown in the decorations, which would certainly have satisfied Geo. Washington had he been present. This society makes a practice of giving its annual ball on the night of Washington's birthday and it invariably scores a success. The Quintette club set the pace for the 20 numbers on the dance program, fully maintaining their reputation as a strong band. This popular society, of which Julius Asch is sachein, was re-organized two years ago last August and now has 44 members. It is clear of debt and has \$1,000 in its treasury. Applications for membership are made at every meeting. A sick member receives a benefit of eight dollars a week, besides the personal attendance of some one in the society.

THE ORPHEUM.

The Orpheum programme for the week has been rather an interesting one considering the talent they have had in hand and it must be regretted that on a change of program night, namely, last Monday night, that there should have been so small a house.

The farce comedy "Hector" was well rendered and was funny throughout. The specialties were good, but a Honolulu audience want more vaudeville work. No doubt such talent will be imported by next steamer and which will give the people what they want.

Antonio Pirri, as a tumbler is not as great a success as he is at balancing plows and pieces of paper on his chin. The closing sketch was dry and had it not been ably handled by Messrs. Rockwell and Dunn would have fallen flat.

Prominent Author Heard From.

A letter has been received from Linn B. Porter the author of "Thou Shalt Not" who wrote under the nom-de-plume of Albert Ross, by J. P. Hayward. Mr. Porter spent some time in Honolulu at Waikiki Inn, then Wright's Villa. In fact he wrote his last book "Stranger than Fiction" there, which was out on the first of January. Mr. Porter writes from Kandy, Ceylon, as follows:

"There is but one place in the world more beautiful than Honolulu, and that is where I now am indulging in *dolce far niente*—1700 feet above the sea, perpetual summer but not too hot, tropically lovely. And the natives are certainly more interesting than kanakas. The hotel is a dream of comfort and has a splendid table at \$2.50 a day (American) for tourists. I did Japan, inside and out, for two months; China including Peking, the Great Wall, Shanghai, Hongkong, Canton, etc., six weeks; Philippines, three weeks; Cochin, China and Singapore reaching Ceylon Dec. 16.

"Give my regards to Messrs. Bullen, Beals, Adams, etc. Tell them I shall publish a novel in July, 1900, in which they will find matters of interest. The one I wrote at your house was about California.

LINN B. PORTER."

The many friends Mr. Porter made, while here, are glad to hear from him but he cannot expect Honoluluites to thank him for finding a more beautiful place than Honolulu. If he had, he should have spared our feelings and not confessed it.

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